

# ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



COLORADO  
CONVENTION CENTER

[www.denverconvention.com](http://www.denverconvention.com)

**SMG**  
Worldwide Entertainment and  
Convention Venue Management

# 2012 Annual Sustainability Report

## Colorado Convention Center

The Colorado Convention Center is proud of our sustainable achievements for 2012. We continued to focus our efforts in the areas of Energy, Waste, and Water conservation, Air Quality, and Community Engagement.

We are also proud of becoming the FIRST venue to achieve the ASTM/APEX Environmentally Sustainable Meeting Venue Standard. Our goal is to continue to be a sustainability pioneer in the events industry, making ALL events held at the center *sustainable* events.



### Colorado Convention Center

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## COMMUNITY

- Annual Employee Clean Up Day at the Platte River Garden in June.
- Awarded (3) Champion for the Environment Awards to convention center employees for their continued leadership in our programs.



Employee Clean Up at the Platte River

## CERTIFICATIONS

- APEX/ASTM Certification- In December achieved Level 1 Certification for a Venue (E2774-11). The Colorado Convention Center is the first venue to receive this certification.
- Maintained LEED Certification practices in support of our certification in May 2010.
- Maintained EMS 14001 certification through the City and County of Denver.



Audited Compliance To Standards®



# EVENTS

We feel sustainability is best achieved as a partnership between planners and suppliers. Below are a few examples of how we worked with show organizers to implement sustainable practices at their events in 2012.

- **SIA** – Snowsports Industry Association: offered client new Front of House Resource Recovery Station and continued our Back of House sort.
- **NACDS** – National Association of Chain Drug Store: facilitated donation of over 9,500lbs of items to the United Way.
- **Walmart** – Facilitated donation of over 1,100 pallets of items to various local charities including the Humane Society, Good Will, Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, the Food Bank of the Rockies and other.
- **GABF**- Great American Beer Fest: Continued extensive waste recovery and sustainability program for a diversion rate of over 70%.

The Colorado Convention Center hosts over 250 events each year. The role of our sustainability program is to work with our planners to identify their goals and metrics of success. Whether sustainability is engrained into the fabric of the event, or just getting started, we are here to help.





Each year our engineers and electricians work to identify areas of energy efficiency. As technologies improve, we try to improve as well. As a result, we continue to experience significant energy and cost savings with a reduced environmental impact.



The roof of the Colorado Convention Center hosts a 301kW solar array system to take advantage of the Colorado sunshine and convert it to energy for our building. [CLICK HERE](#) to see what the system is currently producing.



## ENERGY

- Continued Major Lighting Retrofit:
  - Conversion of 2,448 meeting room, street level, and lobby lights to LED, resulting in the following annual savings:
    - Energy savings: 540,447 kWh
    - Cost savings: \$48,640
    - Metric tons of CO2 emission prevented: 3,712.5
- Retrofit hot water pumps, resulting in the following annual savings:
  - Energy savings: 808,305 kWh
  - Cost savings \$72,717.
  - Metric tons of CO2 emission prevented: 284.93.
- Retrofit Air Handler motors, resulting in the following annual savings:
  - Energy savings: 162,348 kWh
  - Cost savings \$146,144.
  - Metric tons of CO2 emission prevented: 57.23
- Retro-commissioning project – overview of operating systems to identify potential areas of increased efficiency.
- Solar Array:
  - Generated 1.6 million kwh of energy to date
  - 392 megawatt hours of energy this year

# WASTE

- Waste Diversion from Landfill of 57%
  - 307,739 lbs materials donated for reuse or repurposing
  - 681,001 lbs of materials recycled
  - 280,120 lbs of materials composted
- Recycled over 6,107lbs of paper, saving the equivalent of:
  - 52 Trees
  - 21,350 Gallons of Water
  - 12,505 Kw of Energy
  - 15 Cubic Yards of Landfill
- Recycled 8,260 lbs of steel
- Recycled 1,420 lbs of wiring

In addition to recycling and composting throughout the facility, we also partner with various non-profits to donate leftover conference materials. In 2012 the Colorado Convention Center donated 308,000 lbs of materials to these organizations to be reused in our community.

We are committed to reducing and diverting the waste produced by our operation and events. In 2012 we furthered this effort by placing compost bins in all our lobby areas and large food functions.







## AIR QUALITY

- Sponsorship of (2) Denver Bike Share Stations located on property.
- Overall reduction of 1,9,62,674 lbs of CO2 through power generated by solar array.
- Partnered with Environmental Health to create a case study of the Engine's OFF program for Venues.  
[http://enginesoff.com/2\\_5\\_1\\_ccc.htm](http://enginesoff.com/2_5_1_ccc.htm)



Located in the heart of Downtown Denver, the Colorado Convention Center is within walking distance of 8,400 hotel rooms and ideal for any size meeting or convention group.

Event attendees and organizers are also invited to explore the city by bicycle using the Denver bike share program B-Cycle.

To learn more about this program visit:

[www.denver.bcycle.com/](http://www.denver.bcycle.com/)

# WATER

- Retrofit of all toilets, urinals, and sinks to low-flow and dual flush models.
  - Estimated to reduce water usage by approximately 30% annually.



As a semi-arid environment, water conservation is of upmost importance for the Mile High City!

In addition to our water saving practices, we continually monitor our water use with sub-meters to allow us to identify leaks and other inefficiencies.